

SECRET

3 August 1945

TO : Operations (Att: Lt. Lenington)
FROM : Vetting *fwc*
SUBJECT: Re Summary of Preliminary Vetting on Murad FERID

1. Reference is made to our summary of preliminary vetting on FERID sent to Capt. Timm today. We discussed thoroughly with Lt. Weismiller yesterday the type of advice which he believes should and should not be given to the field in vetting cases. He desires to limit that advice to opinions based on new evidence unknown to the field station. If we have doubts, on the other hand, which are based solely on the record as submitted to us by the field station, they should not, for diplomatic reasons, be written to the field. Lt. Weismiller agreed, however, that is we had some such reservations about a prospect it would be the best procedure to communicate them to the case officer in the Operations Section.

2. Accordingly, we shall state what is probably an obvious fact, but one nonetheless too important to go unmentioned in any review of a prospect which presumes to concern the security of this organization. FERID, as a Gruppe II leader and an admitted member of the NSDAP and SA in 1933, is more likely to be a Pan-German or outright Nazi than the usual penetration agent considered by us. Undoubtedly, the field station has considered this problem and spoken to some of the political references given in item 12 of the XYZ-1 form as part of their effort to analyze FERID's basic motives for us.

3. We shall, in conclusion, add that with a character like FERID there is a strong presumption against him when viewed solely on paper. The field has probably taken full account of this and found the presumption overcome by evidence personally available to it, but as a double safeguard, I respectfully suggest that it might be wise to discuss casually FERID's reliability with the field officer at such a time as he visits Wiesbaden next.

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